

## CHAPTER VII

### BUREAU OF PARLIAMENTARY STUDIES AND TRAINING

**97. Aims and Objectives.**—The Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training was established in 1976 as an integral part of the Lok Sabha Secretariat. The Bureau, among other things, seeks to provide legislators and officials with institutionalized opportunities for systematic training in various disciplines of parliamentary institutions, processes and procedures.

With a view to familiarizing new Members of Parliament and State Legislatures with the intricacies of parliamentary practices and procedures, the Bureau organises Orientation Programmes for them. These Programmes seeks to promote a proper appreciation of the constitutional role and position of the Parliament and the State Legislatures as representative institutions, familiarize the members more closely with the parliamentary traditions, etiquette and conventions, and help them in making the best and most effective use of the precious time of the House.

The Bureau also organizes Hindi classes for non-Hindi speaking Members. Besides, Computer Awareness programmes for Members of Parliament as well as their personal staff are organized.

Since August 2005, the Bureau has been conducting a Lecture Series for Members of Parliament by domain experts and specialists on issues of topical interest when Parliament is in session.

The Annual Parliamentary Lecture in honour of the eminent parliamentarian, Prof. Hiren Mukherjee, which was instituted in 2008, is also organized by the Bureau. The Inaugural Lecture was delivered by Nobel Laureate Prof. Amartya Sen on 11 August 2008. The subsequent Lectures were delivered by Prof. Muhammad Yunus, Prof. Jagdish Bhagwati, and H.E. Lyonchhen Jigme Y. Thinley, the then Prime Minister of Bhutan.

Further, the Bureau organizes Round Table Discussions on important issues concerning the institution of Parliament and democracy. These Round Table Discussions are attended by eminent personalities from different walks of life. Also, Seminars on issues of topical importance are organised from time to time, which are attended by Members of Parliament/State Legislatures, eminent personalities/dignitaries, etc. Familiarization Programmes are organized for the benefit of the media persons covering the proceedings of Parliament and State Legislatures.

The Bureau, every year conducts two International Training Programmes of one-month's duration for Foreign Parliamentary Officials, viz., the 'Parliamentary Internship Programme' and the 'International Training Programme in Legislative Drafting'. In addition, the Bureau organizes—Training Programmes and Study Visits for Members and officials of Foreign Parliaments and State Legislatures, Government Officials, scholars and students. Attachment Programmes for Parliamentarians and Parliamentary/Government Officials of foreign countries with the Indian Parliament are also conducted on specific requests.

The Bureau regularly organizes Appreciation Courses in Parliamentary Practices and Procedures for Probationers of various All-India and Central Services, such as the Indian Administrative Service, Indian Foreign Service, Indian Police Service, Indian Revenue Service, etc. The Bureau also organizes Courses/Programmes for Middle and Senior Level Officers of various Ministries/Departments, Public Sector Undertakings, and Officials of Parliament and State Legislatures. Programmes are also conducted for Professors and Lecturers of Universities and Colleges.

The Bureau organizes one-day Study Visits for students of various schools, colleges and educational institutions from across the country. The objective of these Study Visits is to acquaint the students with the working of Parliament and to make them aware of its primacy in our democratic system.

The Bureau also organizes Call-on Meetings with the Speaker of Lok Sabha for various stakeholders, including school, colleges, university students and others.

A one year-long 'Lok Sabha Internship Programme' was launched in January 2008 to provide an opportunity to young men and women with outstanding academic and extracurricular achievements to acquaint themselves with the working of parliamentary democracy and the democratic institutions in general and specifically about the Indian Parliamentary system.

The objective of the various programmes organized by the Bureau is to provide the participants the much needed direct exposure to the environment, culture and traditions of parliamentary institutions so as to enable them to appreciate better the nature of their role and place in the overall context of the parliamentary system and democratic set-up leading to a more informed response of their work in relation to Parliament and representative institutions.

The Bureau is located in Sansadiya Gyanpeeth (Parliament Library Building), Parliament Complex.